

A NEW SPECIES OF *SUTERA* (SCROPHULARIACEAE)

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(*Compton Herbarium, Kirstenbosch*)

ABSTRACT

A new species of *Sutera* from the north western Cape, *Sutera esculenta* Bond is described.

UITTREKSEL

'N NUWE SOORT *SUTERA* (SCROPHULARIACEAE)

'n Nuwe soort *Sutera* van die Noord-Wes-Kaap, *Sutera esculenta* Bond word beskryf.

INTRODUCTION

This species appears to be extremely localized in distribution according to present records. In spite of its long flowering period, May to September, only three collections appear to have been made. It was first collected by Mr. B. Maguire in 1952 but it was not until 1973 that Mr. H. Hall collected it on two occasions. Mr. Hall has been responsible for collecting many new and interesting species from the Calvinia district.

Sutera esculenta Bond sp. nov. affinis *S. canescens* Hiern sed tubo corollae longo et foliis crassis distinguitur.

Suffrutex perennis, basin lignosus, rami divaricati, ad 20 cm altus sed saepe brevissimus, ubique dense glandulosus-puberulus. *Folia* opposita sed quasi-fasciculata, ovato-ovala, crenata, basis cuneata ad 11 mm longa; bractae foliis similes sed minores. Flores axillares, subterminales, pauci; pedunculi 4-20 mm. bracteis longiores, uniflori; calyx 5-partitus, lobi lineari-spathulati, 4-5 mm longus; corolla albida, fauce atropurpurea, 18-21 mm longa, tubus corollae calyce 2-3-longiore, cylindricus, apex breve gibbosus; lobi oblongi 6 mm × 2 mm capsula ovoidea, subacuta 6-8 mm longa.

A perennial undershrub, woody at base, much branched, up to 20 cm high but often stunted due to grazing; densely glandular-puberulous in all parts. *Leaves* opposite or quasi-fasciculate, ovate-oval, cuneate at base, crenate, up to 11 mm long, decreasing in size upwards; petiole 1-4 mm long. *Bracts* leaf-like but smaller. *Flowers* axillary, subterminal, not numerous; peduncles 4-20 mm long, longer than the bracts, 1-flowered; calyx 5-partite with linear-spathulate lobes 4-5 mm long; corolla white with maroon markings in throat; tube 18-21

mm long, 3 to 4 times longer than the calyx, cylindrical, slightly dilated and curved at apex, sparsely glandular-puberulous; lobes oblong, obtuse 6 mm $\times$ 2 mm; stamens and style included. *Capsule* ovoid, subacute, minutely glandular-puberulous, 6–8 mm.

Diagnostic characters: *Sutera esculenta* is most closely allied to *S. canescens* Hiern but is distinguished by its long corolla tube and thick leaves. It is obviously heavily grazed, hence its specific epithet.

Type material: CAPE—3120 (Calvinia): Farm Langfontein, 55 km east of Calvinia, east slope of stony dolerite koppie (–CA), 26th September 1973, *H. Hall* 4448 (NBG holo.; PRE, STE, K, MO, iso.).

Specimens Examined:

CAPE—3119 (Calvinia); 35 km N. of Calvinia (–BD), Sept., *B. Maguire* 1979 (NBG); 3120 (Calvinia): Farm Langfontein, 55 km S.E. of Calvinia (–CA), May, *H. Hall* 4252 (NBG); Sept., *H. Hall* 4448 (NBG).

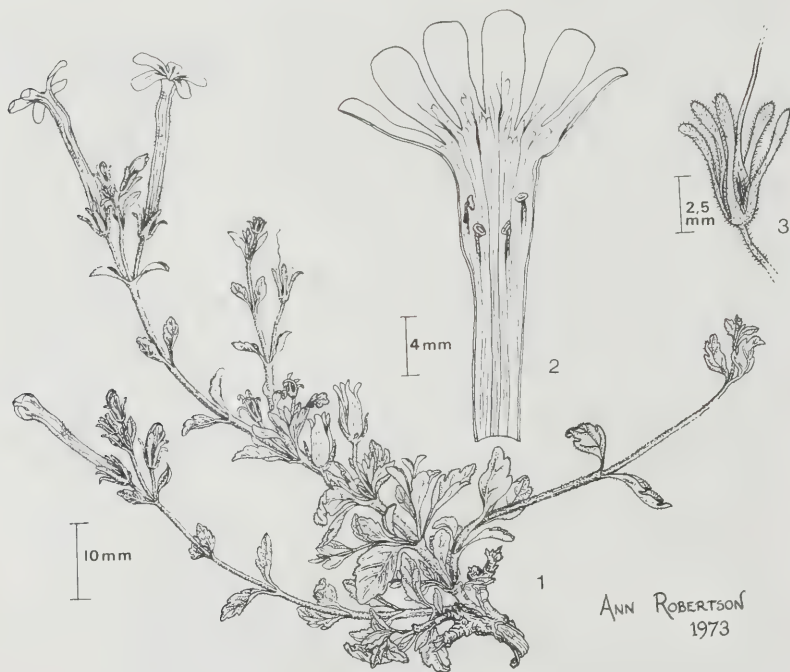


FIG. 1.

Sutera esculenta Bond.

1. Flowering shoot 10 mm. 2. Longitudinal section of flower 4 mm. 3. Calyx 2,5 mm.